Math and Literature Bibliography

The Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat
by Theoni Pappas
Wide World Publishing/Tetra, 1997
A cat with a talent for math takes children on a tour of mathematical concepts.

Amazing Book of Shapes
by Lydia Sharman
DK Publishing, 1999
Geometric shapes and visual patterns are explored through colorful, sharply delineated photographs of objects and people.

Building Big
by David Macaulay
Houghton Mifflin, 2000
The structures we see and use every day are explored in this companion to the PBS series, helping students grasp the importance of measurement.

Cool Math
by Christy Maganzini
Putnam Publishing Group, 1997
Engaging games, quizzes, and amazing facts about mathematics and its history help to reinforce math skills in all areas.

Conned Again Watson! Cautionary Tales of Logic, Math, and Probability
by Colin Bruce
Perseus Publishing, 2002
Bruce uses drama, conflict, and familiar characters to bring logic and game theory to life.

Digging for Bird-Dinosaurs: An Expedition to Madagascar
by Nic Bishop
Houghton Mifflin, 2000
Clues to the mystery of bird evolution offer students opportunities to do calculations of greater numbers.

Discovering Graph Secrets
by Sandra Markle
Atheneum, 1997
Entertaining and informative book on four types of graphs: bar graphs, line graphs, circle graphs, and pictographs.

Do You Wanna Bet? Your Chance to Find Out About Probability
by Jean Cushman
Houghton Mifflin, 1991
Two boys become involved in everyday situations that involve probability.

Einstein Anderson, Science Detective: On-line Spacemen and Other Cases
by Seymour Simon
Avon Books, 1998
Einstein Anderson, a whiz at science, investigates the mysteries of the universe.

Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions
by Edwin A. Abbot
Penguin USA, 1998
A reprint of a classic about a flat world of two dimensions originally published in the 1880s.

The Fly on the Ceiling: A Math Myth
by Julie Glass
Random House, 1998
Combines math, history, and humor to tell the story of Rene Descartes, the father of analytic geometry.

Fractals, Googols and Other Mathematical Tales
Wide World Publishing/Tetra, 1993
An unusual cast of characters bring mathematical concepts to life.
A Gebra Named Al
by Wendy Isdell
Free Spirit Publishing, 1993
A young girl’s difficulty with algebra leads her to a journey through the “Land of Mathematics” where math and science are no longer mystifying.

If You Made a Million
by David M. Schwartz
William Morrow, 1994
Ways to earn and spend a penny, a nickel, and a million dollars are explored.

The Librarian Who Measured the Earth
by Kathryn Lasky
Little, Brown, 1994
Includes an explanation of math used by the ancient Greek astronomer Eratosthenes to calculate the earth’s circumference.

The Man Who Counted: A Collection of Mathematical Adventures
by Malba Tahan
W.W. Norton, 1993
The tale of a humble sheepherder who, through the power and logic of mathematics, lives a life of great adventure.

Math Mysteries: Stories and Activities to Build Problem-Solving Skills
by Jack Silbert
Scholastic, 1996
The “Effective Detective Agency” introduces each reproducible story, presenting readers with engaging math problems to solve.

Math Talk: Mathematical Ideas in Poems for Two Voices
by Theoni Pappas
Wide World Publishing/Tetra, 1991
Poetic dialogues, designed to be read by two people, present mathematical ideas in a novel way.

Neale S. Godfrey’s Ultimate Kids’ Money Book
Simon & Schuster Children’s, 1998
From stressing the importance of knowing how to make change to establishing a checking account to investing in the stock market, money and its many uses are explained in terms children can understand.

On Beyond a Million: An Amazing Math Journey
by David M. Schwartz
Bantam Doubleday Dell Books for Young Readers, 1999
Amazing facts about numbers in the billions and trillions give children chances to practice using powers of ten.

Shaping the Earth
by Dorothy Hinshaw Patent
Houghton Mifflin, 2000
This natural history of the earth can be used to connect many of the major concepts of mathematics and science.

Sir Cumference and the First Round Table: A Math Adventure
by Cindy Neuschwander
Charlesbridge Publishing, 1997
The terms of geometry are brought to life, as problems with the Round Table force King Arthur and his knights to consider more suitable shapes.

What Are You Figuring Now? A Story About Benjamin Banneker
by Jeri Ferris
Lerner Publishing Group, 1990
A biography of the African American surveyor and self-taught mathematician who, in 1791, surveyed the site that would become our nation’s capital.
She taught high school and college mathematics for nearly two decades, then turned to writing a remarkable series of innovative books which reflect her commitment to demystifying mathematics and making the subject more approachable. Through her pithy, nonthreatening and easily comprehensible style, she breaks down mathematical prejudices and barriers to help one realize that mathematics is a dynamic world of fascinating ideas that can be easily accessible to the layperson. Her math calendars and over 18 math books appeal to both young and adult audiences alike. The Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat: The Mathematical Cat by Theoni Pappas. Penrose, a cat with a knack for math, takes children on an adventurous tour of mathematical concepts from fractals to infinity. Don't miss the sequel, Further Adventures of Penrose the Mathematical Cat Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream by Marilyn Burns. Known as Bean Counter, young Amanda Bean happily counts "anything and everything" by ones, twos, fives, and tens.